



November 2009

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Dickinson, Iron, Menominee County News

Dickinson, Iron,
Menominee County
USDA Service Center

Dickinson, Iron
Menominee County
FSA
East 106 South Drive
Stephenson, MI 49887
906-753-6921(phone)
906-753-2217 (fax)
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

Hours
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

County Committee
Brad Pellegrini, Chair
Nick Hanchek, Vice
Chair
Janis Linderoth, Member
Jim Revall, Member
Mike Brzoznowski,
Member

County Committee
meets
2nd Thursday of each
month @ 10:00 A.M.

Staff
Denise Wilson, PT
Haili Thoney, PT
Jennifer Micheau, PT
Mike Lewis, Reporter
Susan DeVoe, CED



Marketing Assistance Loans are Available on 2009 Crops

MALs are 9 month commodity loans that are available to producers who share in the risk of producing the crop and who have maintained beneficial interest in the crop through the time of the loan application. Eligible producers must comply with conservation and wetland protection requirements, file a crop and acreage report on the farm and ensure that the commodity meets CCC minimum grade and quality standards. Eligible commodities must be in a storable condition. The quality of the commodity in farm storage must be maintained throughout the term of the loan. Producers do not have to participate in the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program to be eligible for commodity loans. Violating the rules of a MAL may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans. The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without prior authorization and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Final Availability Dates

January 31, 2010 for mohair, wool & unshorn pelts

March 31, 2010 for barley, canola, honey, oats and wheat

May 31, 2010 for corn and soybeans

Call the office for details.

Farm Divisions for 2010 Designation by Landowner Method

The designation by landowner method is the division of crop base in the manner agreed to by the parent farm owner and the purchaser. So if you are planning on selling some of your land and want to keep as much of the base as possible call the office and we'll work with you on the details.

Farm Storage Facility Loans Available

Interested producers must demonstrate a need for increased storage capacity, show an ability to repay the loan, possess no delinquent nontax Federal debt, provide all peril structure insurance on the facility, be in compliance with HELC/WC rules and not have been convicted of a controlled substance. Corn, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley, hay, renewable biomass, and vegetable cold storage are eligible for farm storage facility loans. Loan terms are 7 to 12 years depending on the principal amount. Fixed interest rates vary depending on the loan term. Maximum loan amount cannot exceed \$500,000. Loan applicants pay a \$100 non-refundable service fee and a 15% cash down payment. The remaining 85% will be financed.

Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act

AFIDA requires all foreign persons who acquire or transfer any interest in Ag land to submit a form FSA-153 no later than 90 days after the acquisition or transfer. Find details at www.usda.gov

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Risk Management Purchase Requirements

Producers who missed the fall 2009 sales closing date for NAP forage and grazing can now request relief. If relief is granted then producers must pay the \$250 administrative fee per crop. Producers must insure or have Nap coverage on all crops of economic significance to be eligible for the Livestock Forage Program – LFP, Tree Assistance Program – TAP and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment Program – SURE.

TAP provides assistance for growers to replant or rehabilitate nursery, fruit, ornamental, or Christmas Trees that were lost or damaged because of a natural disaster. Losses must be between 1/1/08 & 10/1/2011.

Biomass Crop Assistance Program – BCAP

This first new energy program will provide eligible material owners (EMO) matching payments for the sale and delivery of eligible material to a qualified Biomass Conversion Facility (BCF). Payment will be at the rate of \$1 for each \$1 per dry ton paid by the qualified facility and is limited to a maximum of \$45 per dry ton. Matching payments are also limited to a 2 year payment timeframe which begins when the EMO makes application with the local FSA office. We currently are accepting applications for delivery to 2 local qualified facilities. EMOs must complete necessary forms prior to application for program benefits. More information can be obtained from the FSA Office or on FSA's BCAP web site at: www.fsa.usda.gov/energy

Visit our Web site at:
www.fsa.usda.gov/mi

Dates to Remember	
Nov. 20	NAP sales closing date for apples, asparagus, blueberries & strawberries
Nov. 26	Office closed for the observance of Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 1	NAP sales closing date for honey and maple sap
Dec. 7	Final date to return COC election ballots
Continues	Continuous Conservation Reserve program

Selected Interest Rates for November 2009	
Farm Storage Facility Loans 7 yr.	3.000%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 10 yr.	3.375%
Farm Storage Facility Loans 12 yr.	3.625%
Commodity Loans 1996 - Present	1.375%

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